

the hon. John Hancock, president of the
refs, to the convention of this city, dated
June 11, 1776.

have this day received advice, and are
that it is the design of general Howe
upon New-York as soon as possible;
have reason to believe, will be made.
I am therefore most earnestly to re-
der of congress, to call forth your mi-
in my letter of the 4th instant, and to
with all dispatch, to the city of New-
t you direct that they march in com-
other way that will hasten their arrival
ortant day is at hand that will decide
e of the city of New-York, but in all
e whole province. On such an occa-
ccessity to use arguments with Ameri-
gs, I well know, will prompt them to
the sacredness of the cause will urge
The greatest exertions of vigour and
equiste to prevent our enemies from
of that town; I must therefore beg a
quest you, in the name, and by the au-
ongress, to send forward the militia,
requisition of congress, and that you
all the dispatch which the infinite im-
ause demands.

our to be, gentlemen, your most obe-
want,
JOHN HANCOCK, president.
VINCIAL CONGRESS.

New-York, June 8, 1776.
anks of this congress be presented to
eneral Washington, for the important
rendered to the United Colonies, and
n he has paid to the interest and civil
colony; and that he be assured of the
congress to afford him all the aid in-
enable him to execute the important
him.

the president wait upon general Wash-
municate the said resolution to him.
president informed the congress, that
order of yesterday, he waited upon his
al Washington, and communicated to
therein mentioned;—that his excel-
l to return the following answer, and
resident to communicate the same to

ely obliged for the high sense you ex-
ervices, and for your promises of every
e in the discharge of my important

rest assured, that my attention to the
s colony shall not be wanting, nor my
il authority remitted, whilst I am ho-
command I now hold.

APOLIS, June 27.
ONVENTION.

Annapolis, 24 June, 1776.
ters of capt. Montagu, and of
Eden, Esq; of this day, to the
ety, were laid before the Conven-
consideration thereof.

unanimously, That the said capt.
detaining several servants belong-
abitants of this province, and by
liver up a soldier who deserted
ice of this colony, hath violated
acted in manifest violation of his
serve the same sacred.

That the commanding officer
any baggage or effects belonging
den, Esq; or any other person on
rey, to be carried on board the
to take care that all communi-
said ship immediately cease.

That the letters of capt. Montagu
n, Esq; of yesterday, and the le-
from the Council of Safety, of
apt. Montagu and Robert Eden,
answers, together with the above
der, be immediately published.

tract from the minutes,
G. DUVAL, clk.
Annapolis, Maryland, 23d June, 1776.

the happiness to acquaint you, that
ved here with his Britannic majesty's
under my command, agreeable to
captain Hamond of his majesty's ship
nd senior officer of his majesty's ship
nd in consequence of your applica-
have hoisted the flag of truce at my
t-mast-head, to shew that I am not
ostile manner, and of which I desire
afed to acquaint the inhabitants, that
offer any insults to my officers and
my part I shall hold the truce mod-
ave the pleasure to acquaint you that
odation the Fowey can afford is at
r friends service, and that my boats
be ready to attend your coming
for your property. I am,

Sir,
Your very humble servant,
GEO. MONTAGU.

Eden, Esq;
NCIL of SAFETY.

Annapolis, June 24, 1776.
TATIONS have been made to the
ty this morning by Mr. Samuel Gal-
ers inhabitants of this province, for
a number of white servants belong-

ing to the several persons so applying, had run a-
way from the service of their masters.—We are also
informed that a soldier in the service of this pro-
vince had deserted from capt. Scott's company.—
A flag is sent with a list of the servants and to re-
quest the delivery of them and of the soldier, if they
should be found on board, and if they or any others
should hereafter attempt to get on board, we expect
they will not be received. We are authorized by
the Convention to say, that the people of this pro-
vince will strictly observe the truce, in confidence
that capt. Montagu will do the same.

By order and on behalf of the Council of Safety,
I am,
Your most obedient servant,
CHA. CARROLL, V. P.

GEORGE MONTAGU, Esq;
In COUNCIL of SAFETY.
Annapolis, June 24, 1776.

SIR,
APPLICATION having been made this morning
by Mr. Samuel Galloway and other inhabitants of
this province to our board, representing that a num-
ber of servants had left their masters, a list of which
we send you inclosed, and that they had reason to
believe they were gone on board the ship of war or
her tenders now at anchor in the road.

We request the favour of your excellency to inter-
pose your good offices with capt. Montagu for the
delivery of the servants to their respective masters,
if they should be found on board. We are autho-
rized by the Convention to say, that the people of
this province will strictly observe the truce, in con-
fidence that capt. Montagu will do the same.

By order and on behalf of the Council of Safety,
I am, with respect and regard,
Your excellency's most obedient servant
CHA. CARROLL, V. P.

His excellency ROBERT EDEN, Esq;
Fowey, off Annapolis, 24th June, 1776.

SIR,
IT is my wish, in every respect, inviolably to
preserve the truce under which his majesty's ship
Fowey came up this bay for his excellency your o-
vernor, and as soon as his effects are all on board,
which I expect them to be to-morrow morning, the
Fowey will return to the fleet, without committing
any hostility, if his majesty's colours receive no insult.

With regard to the servants for whose return you
apply, my instructions prohibit my discharging
them, to suffer perhaps a severe and ignominious
servitude, nor is it in my power to deliver up any
subjects of his majesty who embrace his service, and
risk their lives in seizing an opportunity for that
purpose.

The orders to his majesty's ships are peremptory,
to receive all persons well affected, and give them
every protection.—Such boats along side this ship as
are the property of any inhabitants of Maryland
shall under the truce be immediately restored to the
persons claiming them; I intended to have had them
landed this evening.—I hope that no obstruction
will be given to the remainder of governor Eden's
baggage, and that of the gentlemen going down
with him being immediately put on board, as I have
orders to proceed down the bay, as soon as that ser-
vice which brought me up is completed. I am,

Sir,
Your humble servant,
CHA. CARROLL, Esq; GEO. MONTAGU.

His majesty's ship Fowey, June 24th, 1776.

SIR,
IN answer to your letter by capt. Stone, which I
have just received, relative to the application made
by Mr. Galloway and others, on account of some
runaway servants, I can only say that capt. Monta-
gu's orders, "to receive on board, and give pro-
tection to, all British well affected subjects," are po-
sitive, and that he does not consider it in his power,
consistently with those orders, to comply with your
request.

He says that you cannot consider this refusal as
any violation of the truce; that the Fowey has not,
and will not, receive any runaway slaves on board;
that he is bound by, and must follow, his instruc-
tions; that all vessels belonging to this place, now
along side, he intends giving up; and that he has
never sent ashore to bring servants off, or encourage
deserters. I can add no more than that every exer-
tion of my interest, or interposition, on this subject,
must prove ineffectual, against the king's orders.

I hope we shall get away to-morrow, and not be
delayed by any obstruction to the baggage, or
flock, of the gentlemen here, as yet not brought
off. Wishing peace and prosperity to the province
on constitutional principles, I am,

Sir,
Your obedient humble servant,
ROBERT EDEN.
CHARLES CARROLL, Esq; barrister,
v. p. of the Council of Safety, Annapolis.

FOWEY, off Annapolis, the 25th of June, 1776.

SIR,
I HAVE been waiting all this day for the re-
turn of the boat with the remainder of the gover-
nor's baggage, but to my great astonishment per-
ceive she is still along side the wharf; and as I yest-
erday received a letter from Mr. Carroll on behalf
of your board, am apprehensive she is detained. If
that is the case, it will break off the truce that is
now subsisting between his majesty's ship under my
command, and the province of Maryland.

I desire that you will be pleased to let me know
the reason of this delay of the boat, that I may take

my measures accordingly; and desire that his ma-
jesty's boat now sent on shore, will return with an
immediate answer. I am,

Sir,
Your humble servant,
GEO. MONTAGU.
The PRESIDENT of the Council of Safety.

In COUNCIL of SAFETY.
Annapolis, June 25, 1776.

SIR,
BY command of the Convention I inclose you
their resolution of yesterday which expresses the oc-
casion of discontinuing an intercourse with the Fowey,
which was wished and expected to have ended more
satisfactorily. Any measures that may be attempted
for the ostensible cause of stopping the governor's
baggage must properly be imputed to your breach
of the truce, and will be refuted in full proportion
to the injury.

For and on behalf of the Council of Safety,
I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
DAN. OF ST. THO. JENIFER, P.
GEORGE MONTAGU, Esq;

In CONVENTION.
25 June, 1776.

THIS Convention being informed that
writs of election have been issued in the name
of the proprietary, for the election of delegates
in assembly,

RESOLVED, That the said writs be not o-
beyed, and that no election be made in con-
sequence thereof.

Extract from the minutes,
G. DUVAL, clk.
Yesterday about noon the Fowey hoisted sail,
and went down the Bay.

AT a very respectable meeting of the associators of
Anne-Arundel county, held at West-River on Saturday
the twenty-second instant, the following important
questions were submitted to their consideration.

1st. Whether in the opinion of the associators pre-
sent, the province of Maryland should or should not be
bound by the determination of the majority of the U-
nited Colonies upon all questions to be agitated in Con-
gress, such only excepted as are calculated to regulate
or in any manner interfere in the internal government
of the province. Resolved unanimously in the affirma-
tive.

2^{dly}. Whether the instructions that were imposed up-
on the delegates of this province in Congress, by the
December and continued by the May sessions of Con-
vention, should or should not be immediately refuted
by the present Convention, and the delegates in Con-
gress intrusted with discretionary powers of exercising
their own judgments upon any question that may come
under their consideration. Resolved unanimously in
the affirmative, from a thorough conviction that the
true interests and substantial happiness of the United
Colonies in general and this in particular, are insepar-
ably interwoven and linked together, and essentially
dependent upon a close union and continental confede-
ration. The complexion of the times is such, that in
our opinion, unanimity alone can render our opposi-
tion to the establishment of a parliamentary tyranny,
glorious; by division, the most diabolical wishes of the
king, lords, and commons, will be effectually realized.

Published by order of the meeting.

TO THE PEOPLE OF MARYLAND.

THAT the people should have a share in the legis-
lature is the vital principle of every free government.
That the legislative, executive and judicial powers
should be vested in one man, or body of men, is in-
compatible with and destructive of liberty. If chance
or indiscretion should ever consolidate such inconsistent
powers, the freedom of the people will be in danger
until they are separated. This radical evil in our co-
lony demands immediate attention and requires an in-
stant cure. All men, by nature fond of power, are un-
willing to part with the possession of it. The desire to
command increases every day, the exercise of it creates
affection, and what was granted as a trust is soon claim-
ed as a right. The affable, courteous, patriotic, citi-
zen, out of power, frequently degenerates into the
haughty, insolent tyrant, when vested with supreme
command. No man, or body of men, ought to be in-
trusted with the united powers of government, or more
command than is absolutely necessary to discharge the
particular office committed to him. A rotation of
power, a rotation of office, with moderate salaries, are
the best and most effectual means to preserve the lib-
erties of the people. Our Convention was introduced as
a temporary expedient, a child of necessity to supply,
in some measure, a want of government. The old and
constitutional government could not be trusted. The
present Convention, invested by the people at their e-
lection with the whole legislative power, exercise not
only the legislative but the judicial and executive au-
thority. This jumble of characters must and will in-
troduce the most palpable errors and confusion into our
public affairs. The justly celebrated Montesquieu ob-
serves, that a complete tyranny is established by such a
combination of powers. For the want of a proper go-
vernment the greatest crimes to the state may be com-
mitted with impunity. Our paper money may be for-
ged, intelligence conveyed to our enemies, and traitors
bear arms against us. The first ought to be punished with
death, and the two last with the loss of life and estate.
The danger to the community from the commission of
these crimes is very apparent. The Convention could
not declare the penalty for the offence without point-
ing out some mode for the trial of the criminal. As legisla-
tors to make the law, and as judges to determine the
breach, in the case of life, would seem too arbitrary,
and deprive the people of the great bulwark of their li-
berty, a trial by jury. No courts are established to ex-

ecute the resolves of the Convention as the law of the
land, a trial by jury therefore could not be given, and
on the greatest criminals no adequate punishment could
be inflicted.

These and many other reasons will suggest them-
selves to every reader, and convince him, that the pre-
sent mode of government by Conventions ought now
to cease. Policy, prudence and our safety call for the
establishment of a proper, effectual and well regulated
government. The writer of this paper would be for an
abolition of government by Conventions, if the conduct
of the two last was wholly unexceptionable.—It has
been well observed, "that in the relation of constituent
and representative, one principal security of the former is
the right he holds to be fully informed of the con-
duct of the latter, and no case can exist in which it
would be of more importance to exercise this right than
the present, nor any in which the representative would
more willingly acquiesce in the exercise of it." The
late Convention were pleased to declare, "that they had
no intention or desire to prevent any person from freely
examining into their conduct, or to exercise his judg-
ment, or to communicate his sentiments as to the abili-
ties or fitness of any man to fill the office to which he
is appointed; and that it is necessary for the purpose
of filling the places of highest trust, with the best and
most approved characters, in the community, and for
the preservation of public liberty, that there should be
such free investigations." The right of examining in-
to the public conduct of their rulers is inherent in the
people. The Convention have given their public testi-
mony of the propriety of the exercise of it. Without
the caution annexed, I would not wantonly and li-
cenciously traduce, by misrepresentations, the conduct
of any public body or of any individual.

The conduct of the December Convention, in ap-
pointing about fifty out of their number (eighty) to be
brigadiers and field officers of the militia, has given
great offence. A monopoly in trade or power will not
be tolerated in a free government. I am sorry to men-
tion the mode of appointing the officers of the regular
troops. Merit should be the only recommendation to
office. To truck, to bargain for each others votes,
without any enquiry into the pretensions or abilities of
the person proposed, and with no other condition, than
if you will vote for my friend, I will give my voice for
yours, was mean, dishonourable and disgraceful. The
refusal to vote individually, by which the conduct of
each member might be known to his constituents, was
very exceptionable. That eighteen members should
make the law for this province is impolitic and unjust.
An equal representation of the people is the best and
greatest security for their liberty, and the public can-
not conceive the reasons for the Convention's rejecting
a motion to that purpose. The charter of this province
has been deemed sacred by our Conventions; the
charter to the city of Annapolis grants the citizens a
right to send two delegates to assembly, and an act of
our assembly confirms that right; the Convention dis-
regarded the petition of the citizens to send delegates to
Convention. The instructions given by the Conven-
tion to their deputies in Congress, discovered a want
of confidence in their members, or the Congress, and
had a dangerous tendency to withdraw this province
from their union with the other colonies. The draft
of the instructions as reported by the committee, will
be published with a few strictures. The first Council
of Safety consisted of sixteen gentlemen. To prevent
an abuse of power, from a continuance thereof in the
same persons, that Convention resolved, that at each
Convention, one half of the members should be ineli-
gible to the succeeding Council. At the December
Convention seven gentlemen were constituted a Council
of Safety, with power to any four or more of them to
elect another in case of death. At the last Convention
in May, nine gentlemen were elected a Council of
Safety.

The December Convention left out of the Council of
Safety gentlemen of abilities, and of known and ap-
proved attachment to the American cause; the last
Convention continued the gentlemen appointed in De-
cember. Why did not the rule to prevent an abuse of
power, from a continuance thereof in the same persons,
take place, at the last as well as at the December Con-
vention? Were the gentlemen worthy of more trust
or confidence than their predecessors? It is well known
that one of the gentlemen in the Council has uniformly
opposed every measure adopted by this province for
their defence, and that another gentleman exerted all
his influence to rivet the forty per poll, and to establish
a proclamation for officers fees, as the law of the land.
This conduct could be no recommendation to fit in our
councils, and direct the military force of this province.
—The transactions of the Convention relative to gover-
nor Eden has given great disgust in this and our sister
colonies. Governor Eden (among other pieces of ill
behaviour) issued his proclamation to regulate and esta-
blish the fees of office; this conduct was signified by
the unanimous voice of the delegates of Maryland, as
arbitrary and tyrannical, and the advisers of the mea-
sure were voted enemies to this country; Is it not
remarkable, that a Convention, composed of many of
the same delegates, should now, without any change in
their governor's conduct, express "their real wishes
for his return to resume the government of this pro-
vince?"

The times are full of danger, jealousy and fear.
The public, it is hoped, will not be offended with the
author for giving them information, and expressing his
opinion of the public conduct of their rulers.

For he has no wish above
His country's welfare and his country's love.
AN AMERICAN.

* E. G. Three delegates attend from nine counties, two
from each of them concur in opinion. The province would
be bound by eighteen members, though there should be forty-
four dissentients.

b M. Tilghman, John Beale Bordley, Rob. Goldsborough,
James Hollyday, Rd. Lloyd, Edw. Lloyd, Thos. Smyth,
H. Horner, Dan. of St. Tho. Jenifer, Tho. Johnson, jun.
Wm. Paca, Cha. Carroll, barrister, Tho. Stone, Sam.
Chase, Rob. Alexander, and Cha. Carroll, of Carrollton,
Esqrs.

c Dan. of St. Tho. Jenifer, Charles Carroll, barrister,
John Hall, Benj. Rumsey, Ja. Tilghman, Thomas Smith,
and Tho. Bedingfield Hands, Esqrs.

d Dan. of St. Tho. Jenifer, Charles Carroll, barrister,
John Hall, Benj. Rumsey, Geo. Plater, James Tilghman,
Thos. Smyth, Tho. Bedingfield Hands, and Wm. Howard,
Esqrs.